WILLIAM AVERETT



William Averett was born in Hancock County, Illinois, 31 July 1839. He married Elizabeth Hicken 1 Jan. 1865, in Heber, Utah. She was born in Whitwick, Leicestershire, England, 27 August 1846, and came to the United States 1 January 1851. This couple were members of the LDS Church.

William's mother died when he was three years old. His Aunt Eliza Harvey and husband John cared for him. He crossed the plains to Utah with them, helping drive a flock of sheep. He joined his father when he returned from his duty with the Mormon Battalion. He lived with his father until he came to Heber with a half brother John W. Witt. He worked in all public works and did his share to build up the community. He freighted to Fort Bridger, hauling produce from Heber and returning with goods needed in a store he and his brother had. He stood guard duty and fought the Indians with other early residents of Heber. He herded cattle for several years in what is now Duchesne County, and made many friends among the Ute Indians. He was a loving, kind father of nine living children at the time of his death 31 Dec. 1909.

Elizabeth Hicken Averett took an active part in the Relief Society. For many years she was on their burial committee. She was a skilled seamstress and made clothes for the dead and many needy families. She died 19 July 1925 at Heber.

William and Elizabeth had the following children: William Jr., Minnie, (Mrs. Isaac Cummings), Lovina (Mrs. Nelse Murdock), Addison, Joseph and John, Edna (Mrs. Alva Murdock), Leone (Mrs. Charles Bonner), Eustatia.